

**USGS-NPS Vegetation Mapping Program**  
**Acadia National Park**

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***Polypodium (virginianum, appalachianum) / Lichen spp. Nonvascular Vegetation***

COMMON NAME (Rock Polypody, Appalachian Rockcap Fern) / Lichen species Nonvascular Vegetation  
SYNONYM Northern Lichen Talus Barrens  
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS Nonvascular Vegetation (VI)  
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS Lichen vegetation (VI.B)  
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP Temperate or subpolar lichen vegetation (VI.B.1)  
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP Natural/Semi-natural (VI.B.1.N)  
FORMATION Lichen vegetation with a sparse tree layer (VI.B.1.N.c)  
ALLIANCE LICHEN SPP. NONVASCULAR ALLIANCE

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 3

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Terrestrial

**RANGE**

***Acadia National Park***

This association occurs throughout the Park.

***Globally***

This association occurs in New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, New York, and Nova Scotia.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION**

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Talus slopes with sparse vegetation.

***Globally***

This sparsely vegetated open talus slope of the northern Appalachian Mountains and boreal region is characterized by large boulder talus dominated by lichen cover.

**MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES**

***Acadia National Park***

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Non-vascular	Information not available.

***Globally***

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Non-vascular	<i>Cladonia</i> spp., <i>Ptilidium ciliare</i> , <i>Hylocomium splendens</i>

**CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES**

***Acadia National Park***

*Toxicodendron rydbergii* and crustose lichens

***Globally***

**VEGETATION DESCRIPTION**

***Acadia National Park***

(not sampled; some AA points)

***Globally***

Vascular plant species are of low cover, and consist of a heterogeneous mix of scattered individuals of *Picea rubens*, *Betula papyrifera* var. *cordifolia*, *Betula papyrifera* var. *papyrifera*, *Betula alleghaniensis*, *Acer spicatum*, *Polypodium virginianum*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, and *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*. Nonvascular plant species characterize this community and include lichen species of the genus *Cladonia* as well as mosses *Ptilidium ciliare*, *Hylocomium splendens*, and others.

**OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES**

CONSERVATION RANK G?.

DATABASE CODE CEGLO06534

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COMMENTS

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Can grade into Red Spruce Talus Slope Woodland (*Picea rubens* / *Ribes glandulosum* Woodland) as tree cover increases.  
Common; can be large or small.

*Globally*